GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:197
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
PROMOTION OF SPORTS ACTIVITIES
Manvendra Singh Shri

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to take special steps for giving priority to sports activities in the country, keeping in view the 2010 Commonwealth Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PANCHYATI RAJ, YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EAST REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (c) : The promotion of sports is primarily the responsibility of the State Government and at the national level of the National Sports Federation (NSF) concerned with various sports disciplines. The Government, however, supplements the efforts of NSFs by providing financial assistance for training and participation in international sports events abroad, organization of national/international tournaments in India, training/coaching of national level sportspersons/teams under Indian and foreign coaches with requisite technical & scientific back-up, procurement of sports equipment etc. with a view to improving India`s performance and medal prospects in the 2010 Commonwealth Games and other international events, the Government is reviewing the various components of the existing scheme of `Assistance to National Sports Federations`. Infrastructure available for training purposes with the Sports Authority of India is also being upgraded. Ministry is also considering the launching of a `Panchyat Yuva Khel Abhiyan` with the aim of significantly enhancing access to organized sports and games facilities for the youth, particularly in the rural areas and in the process widening the catchment for spotting and nurturing of sports talent and promotion of excellence in sports. Discussions with the State Governments, the Ministries concerned and other stake holders in this regard are underway.